

Event 5- Property Crimes

Session 22 - Prowler

LD 23 - Crimes in Progress

Date Revised: 11/13/19

Course Goal: To teach recruit officers how to respond to a crime in progress.

Session Goal: To teach recruits proper tactical approach concepts and how to complete a thorough investigation of a Suspicious Person's radio call.

Learning Objective:

- Discuss the elements of a tactical approach to a crime in progress including: nature of crime, use and nonuse of warning lights and siren, appropriate communication to agency, uses cover and concealment upon arrival. [23.II.A.1-4]
- Demonstrate effective officer actions for the safe and tactical response involving suspicious persons. [23.IV.A.6]

Session Time: 2 hours

Resources:

- Inert handgun for each recruit
- Screwdriver
- Suspect

Session Summary: The instructors will pick a location at Davis Training Facility and set up a Suspicious Persons radio call. The class will have a facilitated discussion covering the tactical concepts of handling a Suspicious Person's radio call. The students will participate in a radio call regarding a Suspicious Person on private property. The students will demonstrate a thorough investigation.

Outline	Instructor Notes
<p>I. CRITERIA FOR SELECTING A RESPONSE ROUTE</p> <p>A. The following criteria should be considered when selecting a response route [1]</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Distance to be traveled.<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Surface streetsb. Freeways, highways, etc.2. Geographic environment (i.e., schools, street configurations)3. Traffic situation in the area4. Time of day	<p>✓ <i>Service to our communities</i></p> <p>Session 1 (2 hours)</p> <p>[1] Ask- What are some considerations for the route you take when responding to a suspicious persons radio call?</p>

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<p>5. Condition of route to be taken 6. Best approach direction</p> <p>II. PROWLER CALLS</p> <p>A. Prowler Calls – Introduction</p> <p>1. Guard against complacency. The percent of prowler calls resulting in arrest is small.</p> <p>2. Reporting parties are usually extremely frightened and will sometimes arm themselves.</p> <p>3. Suspect may be a burglar, peeping tom, drunk etc. [2]</p> <p>4. Penal Code section for Prowler is 647(h) PC, Loiters, prowls, or wanders upon the private property of another, at any time, without visible or lawful business with the owner or occupant. [3]</p> <p>B. Handling Prowler Calls</p> <p>1. Vehicular response to prowler calls. Elements of a tactical approach to a crime in progress: [23.II.A.1]</p> <p>a. Good knowledge of the area is of value.</p> <p>b. Permits a quiet and safe approach. Possible “blacked out” approach (call lights off if safe). [23.II.A.2] [4]</p> <p>c. Allows officers to approach at right angles to the call location.</p> <p>d. By turning at the last intersection nearest the scene, the officers can largely avoid signaling their approach to the prowler.</p> <p>2. When necessary, check the house</p>	<p><i>The instructors will emphasize the 4 C’s; Control, Communicate, Coordinate, Contain</i></p> <p>[2] Ask- What is a Prowler?</p> <p>[3] Ask- What is the Penal Code Section for Prowler?</p> <p>[4] Ask- What type of approach should you make?</p>
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<p>number.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Check house numbers on the opposite side of the street (flashlight). [5]b. Check for curb numbers (light less conspicuous).c. Possibly use a parallel street to ascertain the block number and approximate location of the victim's address. <p>3. Points to consider when nearing the call location. [6]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Reduce speeds to eliminate tire squeal and motor noise.b. Communicate appropriate information [23.II.A.3]c. Coast to a stop.d. Avoid manhole covers, pot holes and bumps in the road.e. Turn ASTRO radios down.f. Avoid any and all excessive noise.g. Interior vehicle lights should be switched off at night, not allowing them to function when the doors open.h. Use the brake light cut-off switch.i. Do not leave the keys in the vehicle ignitionj. Avoid driving past the call location.<ul style="list-style-type: none">1) In the case of driving past the call location, continue and do not back up. [7]2) Other responding units should be advised of the primary responding officer's location and their deployment should be coordinated.3) When only two officers are	<p>[5] Ask- What are some ways to locate the address?</p> <p>[6] Ask- What are some points to consider when nearing the location?</p> <p>[7] Ask- What do you do if you drive past the location?</p>
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<p>handling the call, they should remain together.</p> <p>4) Additional backup units should be deployed to guard the natural escape routes.</p> <p>5) Containment of the area is important.</p> <p>4. Foot Approach [8]</p> <p>a. Officers should make a silent and undetected foot approach using cover and concealment. [23.II.A.4]</p> <p>b. Turn portable radio volume down but never off.</p> <p>c. Avoid rattling car keys or loose objects.</p> <p>d. Effectively use cover and concealment and avoid silhouetting. [9]</p> <p>e. Avoid any and all excessive noise.</p> <p>5. Contacting the reporting person prior to initiating an area search.</p> <p>a. The reporting person should be advised that law enforcement officers are on the scene and that they will be conducting a search. [10]</p> <p>b. Generally, the notification to the reporting person is made by the dispatcher so that responding officers do not have to compromise their tactical advantage prior to the search.</p> <p>c. Direct contact with the reporting person will normally be made after the initial area search.</p> <p>6. Locate and detain the suspect(s). [11]</p> <p>a. Conduct a lawful search for readily accessible weapons.</p>	<p>[8] Ask- When making a foot approach what are some tactical considerations?</p> <p>[9] Ask- Why is it important to use cover and concealment while making a foot approach?</p> <p>[10] Ask- Should you advise the PR you are scene? If so why?</p>
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<p>b. Interview the suspect(s) to establish probable cause.</p> <p>c. Complete an FI and conduct a Code 10.</p> <p>d. Determine if crime occurred.</p> <p>e. Arrest the suspect(s)</p> <p>KEY POINTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Request and use when necessary all available resources- Conduct a thorough and complete search- Know your division <p>III. BURGLARY IN PROGRESS CALLS</p> <p>A. Approaching the location. [23.II.A]</p> <p>1. Develop a plan of operation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Must be flexible (plan ahead while patrolling beat).b. Provide coordination between partners and other units. <p>[23.II.A.3]</p> <p>2. Officer should get to the scene quickly, quietly and safely. [12]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Avoid using red lights or siren near location.b. Turn off headlights before final approach (when safe).c. Slow speed on final approach to eliminate tire squeal and engine noise.d. Turn ASTRO volume down, never off (consider using an ear plug for hand-held radios).e. Do not rattle car keys or loose objects.f. Do not slam doors, close them quietly.g. Vehicle dome or other interior lights should not function when	<p>[11] Ask- What should you do if you locate a possible suspect(s)?</p> <p>Ask- What is involved when doing a thorough investigation?</p> <p>[12] Ask- When responding to a burglary in progress call what are some ways to make a silent approach?</p>
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<p>doors are opened.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">h. Use brake light cut-off switch.i. Do not leave the keys in the patrol car ignition. <p>3. First officer at the scene should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Take a position best observe and control the scene.b. Advise dispatch and responding units of arrival and give specific location. [23.II.A.3]c. Make a silent approach on foot using cover and concealment. [23.II.A.4]d. Communicate and coordinate with other officers to contain suspect(s) and prevent escape. [13]e. Request additional resources if necessary, available and appropriate (i.e., canine unit, air ship, SWAT, fire department, requesting backup etc.) <p>4. Exterior search of area. [14]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Vehicles parked at or near the location (warm engine)b. Boxes, trash bins, stockpiles.c. Trees, hedges, shrubberyd. All places of possible concealment (do not forget to look up). <p>5. Search for point of entry.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Do not walk or stand in front of windows.b. Be careful not to silhouette yourself or your partner.c. One officer covers, the other searches.	<p>[13] Ask- Why is it important to communicate and coordinate with other officers?</p> <p>[14] Ask- What are some exterior areas to be searched?</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none">d. Use wall for protection when looking into window or trying the door.e. Check for possible indicators of point of entry. [15]<ul style="list-style-type: none">1) Pry marks.2) Glass cut or broken3) Dust disturbed on window ledge.4) Cobwebs5) Tunnel accessf. After checking the interior from the window, cross under the window and check from the other side.g. Use flashlight properly and cautiously. <p>6. Searching roofs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Access to roof sometimes difficult<ul style="list-style-type: none">1) May need ladder – if none available consider calling the fire department.2) Air Supportb. Cover should be provided for officers ascending roofc. Notify other personnel regarding the officers on roof.d. Searching officer should check:<ul style="list-style-type: none">1) Adjacent roof/crawl spaces.2) Sign boards3) Air vents.4) Any other place of concealment.e. Advise officers on ground of conditions.f. Use extreme caution and make use of natural cover. <p>7. When point of entry is located, notify</p>	<p>[15] Ask- What are some indicators of point of entry?</p> <p>{16} Ask- If a point of entry is located, why is it</p>
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<p>dispatcher and other units. Be aware of and preserve physical evidence. {16}</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">8. Order all occupants out of building, if applicable.9. Use cover officer and communicate a plan for the building entry/search assuming suspects are present.10. Make a tactical building entry (minimum of two officers for entry, three to search, Officer Down Rescue). [17]11. Use a systematic searching method.12. Use safe tactics during search.13. After finding suspect use proper arrest techniques14. Suspect should be removed from building when possible. Suspect should be removed by assisting units.15. Complete building search after suspect has been removed, using extreme caution and make use of natural cover. <p>KEY POINTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Points of entry- Systematic searches- Always search entire structure	<p>important to notify other units?</p> <p>[17] Ask- Why do you need a minimum of three officers to search?</p> <p>End 1 hr Hour 2 Learning Activity 1 (Recruits will participate in Learning Activity 1)</p>
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Learning Activity 1- Suspicious Person at the Gas Station [23.IV.A.6]

Purpose- The students will demonstrate the basic tactical considerations as well as special considerations when responding to Crimes in Progress. The unique nature and risk associated with these types of in progress calls require officers to plan and execute specific tactics for approach, arrival and search.

Description- Two students will work as partners and respond to “Possible suspicious activity at the gas station located at Tactical and Academy.” The suspect was seen attempting to enter the side door.” One instructor will act as a suspect and stand at the side door holding a screwdriver. The suspect will be attempting to pry open the door.

The students will first talk tactics before handling the radio call determining who contact is and who cover is. The students will broadcast their code 6 location and park at a safe and effective distance. The students will quietly make their foot approach using cover and concealment. The students will locate the suspect and safely take the suspect into custody using contact and cover. The students will search the suspect and do a thorough investigation. The students will complete an FI and conduct a Code 10. A thorough investigation will reveal the suspect was attempting to break into the gas station and an arrest will be made.

Suspect behaviors:

- Cooperative

Resources needed:

- Black and white police vehicle
- Inert handgun for each recruit (participating)
- Radio for each recruit
- Screwdriver

Key learning points:

- Communications
- Contact and Cover
- The importance of a thorough investigation

Time required: 15 minutes